Inadequate Security Arrangements at IGI Airport, Delhi

†452. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:
PROF. RAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of incidents of hijacking of Indian planes occured so far including the hijacking took place on 24.12.99;

(b) the safety measures taken by Government to check the incidents of plane hijacking in view of re-occuring of these types of incidents;

(c) whether Government assume that security arrangements at Indira Gandhi International Airport arc adequate; and

(d) if so, the reasons for iliegal entry, time and again into the airport'and if not, the steps being taken by Government for foolproof security of Indira Gandhi International Airport and other all the sensitive international airports of the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) There have been 19 incidents of hijacking of Indian aircraft so far.

(b) Following measures have been taken for the safety of air passengers:—

(i) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel in place of the State Police for security duties at all operational domestic airports in the first phase. The CISF has already taken over the security duties at Jaipur, Guwahati. Vadodara and Port Blair airports.

(ii) Frisking of pas.sengers and hand baggage at the time of entry into sterile area has been tightened. Ladder point secondary frisking has been introduced.

(iii) Strict control on access to the airports is being ensured by comprehensive review of photo-identity cards to

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tOriginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.

restrict the number of pass holders and banning of entry of the visitors upto, 28.2.2000.

(iv) Deployment of sky marshals on flights at random basis as an added safety precaution.

(v) Raising of the perimeter wall to the prescribed height at all the operational airports.

(vi) Replacement of old X-ray machines and installation of new colour X-Ray machines wherever necessary so as to ensure that atleast 2 X-Ray machines are available at every point.

(vii) Modernisation and upgradation of security related technological set up of the airports is being done in a phased manner.

(c) and (d) The efficacy of security measures is reviewed at regular intervals by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security and by Aerodrome Committee headed by Director, IGI Airport in which Police and other agencies are represented. Necessary corrective measures are immediately taken on the basis of reviews done at different levels.

Replacement of Outdated Escalator at IGI Airport, Delhi

453. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) when was the escalator which met with the accident at the Indira Gandhi International Airport commissioned;

(b) the life span of such an ascalator;

(c) the reasons for not replacing it when it had become old;

(d) the persons responsible for the lapse; and

(e) the action taken to modernise and improve the facilities to upgrade airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The escalator was commissioned in May, 1986 and its life span was a minimum of 20 years;

(c) and (d) Do not arise.